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‍Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

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When last left off in the book Amir ran away and did not attempt to save Hassan from the beatings by Assef. Hassan was later found and Amir never spoke of what he saw. Amir continued to ignore Hassan because he is was unsure if Hassan knew that he saw everything and did not do a thing to stop it. Amir’s guilt is starting to eat away at him. Every day Amir wished that someone knew what had happened so he wouldn’t feel as guilty. He states, “a part of me was hoping someone would wake up and hear, so I wouldn’t have to live with this lie anymore” (pg. 86). Hassan had no clue why Amir ignored him, he is clueless. Hassan states, “I wish you’d tell me. I don’t know why we don’t play anymore…You can tell me I’ll stop doing it” (pg. 88). Amir assumes Hassan knows that he didn’t save him, when really he doesn’t have a clue. Amir’s guilt is mentally destroying him throughout this part of the book. He starts to drift away from Hassan in an effort to try and forget about his guilt. When that doesn’t work, Amir asks Baba for new servants because he can’t stand the guilt he feels. Baba is very disappointed and angry at Amir because he has been close to Ali and Hassan and would never wish them away. In order to get what he wants, Amir frames Hassan by putting money and a watch under Hassan’s pillow to make it seem as if Hassan stole it. When Hassan confronts Baba he tells him he stole it, when he really didn’t. After he admits this Hassan and Ali state that they must leave and not continue to be their servants any longer. Baba unsure of why this is happening sobs and begs for them to stay. Amir is going insane and starts to wonder if Hassan found out that Amir did not save him, and wonders if Ali knows as well. Hassan and Ali leave and are not in contact with Amir and Baba anymore. Eventually Baba and Amir go to America. Baba works six days a week to try and provide a great life for Amir like they once had. Everything Baba had worked for back at home in Afghanistan is now gone as they start a new life with new adjustments. Amir soon graduates high school and Baba is overjoyed. However, Baba references Hassan he says, “I wish Hassan had been with us today” (pg. 133). This made Amir feel uncomfortable and it set the mood that things are not in the past and Amir’s guilt is still there.

When I analyze this part of the book I am very disappointed. I thought that Amir would grow up and stand up to Assef and show Hassan that he is a true friend. However, Amir did just the opposite. He was chicken and did not stand up for his friend. I notice that Hassan is such a unique character. When Hassan told Baba that he did steal the money and the watch, when he did not, this only made me value his choice of character even more. Hassan does not care about the consequences he just does what he thinks is right. I value his courage of standing up for his friends no matter what happens to him. I also start to accept Baba more because I learn more about his reasonings behind his actions. I learned that Baba only wants Amir to go into a professional like his that way he can be successful and not have to work has hard as others do. Baba is only doing what he thinks is best for Amir, which is making sure he goes into a career that guarantees a long comfortable life. Within this part of the book I began to learn more about the characters. I learned that Amir is too scared to stand up for others or admit is wrong doings. I learned that Hassan is an extremely thoughtful person regardless of what Pashtuns say about Hazaras. Lastly, I learned that Baba does whatever he can to get his son far in life. This part of the book told me why the characters did what they did.

When understanding human nature, most people think that a father and a son’s relationship are strong. However, Baba and Amir’s relationship continues to be a struggle. Amir starts to bond with Baba in this part. Baba is paying more attention to Amir’s life. He is listening to Amir’s stories, including him with adult conversations, and spending more time with Amir. Amir knew the bonding would soon end because Baba is such a busy man. However, their bond also ended because they never had a strong bond to begin with. The only reason they were pushing it was because Baba noticed Amir since he won the kite competition. Beforehand, Amir never did anything that stuck out to him and made him notice him. So, when understanding human nature one notices that certain bonds do not always match like they are supposed to. When understanding human roles and behavior, Amir’s human nature is to hide behind the truth. Amir felt guilt about not saving Hassan. In order for this guilt to leave he brings Hassan to a hill and beats him. Afterwards he provokes Hassan to do the same. Amir’s human behavior is different than Hassan. Hassans human nature is socially quiet but he is very loyal to Amir. Amir lies and hides from his fears. His human roles and behavior is to always make sure he doesn’t disappoint his father since he inspires to get attention from him. Amir continues the bad human behavior of ditching Hassan that way people do not judge him for talking to a Hazara. Amir can’t be with Hassan because of his guilt. Amir’s human nature is to avoid a problem. Instead of talking to Hassan and act like nothing ever happened, he makes a big deal and avoids talking to Hassan. He even frames Hassan so he leaves and isn’t his servant anymore. Amir’s behavior is starting to change in this part. Amir is begging to believe that he must pick a side, either be friends with Pashtuns and be treated with respect, or be friends with Hazaras and be made fun of. His behavior is starting to change because he would rather be seen with Pashtuns, meaning he has to ditch Hassan as a friend, making Amir a disloyal friend. When understanding human ideals, parents seek perfection within their children. Baba would rather have Amir go to medical or law school. He is worried that Amir will fail if he chooses to pursue in writing. Baba wants to see Amir succeed. Amir on the other hand would rather do what he wants to do. When understanding Amir's human ideals, one notices that he does what he wants to do regardless of the conssqueues. Amir does not care if he fails as long as he knows that he gave it his best effort. This is why Baba and Amir are so different, they have different human ideals. Another example of human ideal is that most people prefer perfection. Most people do not approve of Pashtuns marrying Hazaras. Rahminkhan says, “it was Homaira and me against the world. In the end, the world always wins” (pg. 9). Rahminkhan told Amir that people still do not approve Pashtuns and Hazaras being classified as one. Humans seek perfection especially in relationships. In this situation, Pashtuns human ideals is that they should marry within their social class. Rahimkhans human ideal is to have harmony so he didn’t marry a Hazara because he knew his girlfriend would have a brutal life filled with criticism. Rahimkhan human ideals is to be an open and loyal person who will not change his believes for someone else. His talk with Amir is ironic because it was an awakening to Amir that he should not defriend Hassan because of his different social class. Rahimkhan unknowingly was using his human ideals and trying to enforce them unto Amir.